

May 8, 1972

Secretary William Rogers
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I have just been informed by Professor Kosower and his colleagues at Tel Aviv University in Israel of the difficulties being experienced by Professor Veniamin G. Levich and his family in the USSR subsequent to his decision to accept the offer of a position at Tel Aviv University as Professor of Chemistry there. He has been demoted from his position as Head of the Theoretical Electrochemistry Group in the Institute of Electrochemistry of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR. His older son has been dismissed from his position as engineer and his younger son, a theoretical physicist has been refused the right to apply for an emigration permit. Professor Levich, a member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR and an internationally known and distinguished physical chemist and theoretical physicist, certainly has every right to make a free choice concerning his career and the place in which it is pursued, and I do hope that the powers that be in the Soviet Academy of Sciences can help to rectify the obvious disservice that has been performed against a talented individual and against the normal uninhibited progress of scientific research.

Sincerely yours,

Christian B. Anfinsen
Chief, Laboratory of Chemical
Biology, NIAMD